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**THEIR PRIZE:** Certificates, advancement to the next round of state Consumers Bowls



STAFF PHOTO: DAWN BENKO

Students participate in a Consumer Bowl at County College of Morris in Randolph on Tuesday. The Randolph High School team, including (from left) Ben Wohl, Sohumi Doshi, Jason Berger and Jae Hwang, which eventually won, confer on a team question.

## Randolph High wins

By **MATT MANOCHIO**  
STAFF WRITER

**RANDOLPH** — The hometown team of five Randolph High School students won the 2010 state Division of Consumer Affairs Consumer Bowl competition for Morris County and will represent the county next month in a regional contest.

Randolph competed Tuesday against students from Morris Hills, Mount Olive and Kinnelon high schools at County College of Morris for a chance to square off against the winning high school teams from other North Jersey counties.

Each team of five students, including an alter-

nate, had game show-style buzzers to beat other students to the punch in answering questions related to consumerism.

Randolph won with 105 points to Morris Hills' 60, Mount Olive's 50 and Kinnelon's 40.

Topics ranged from the amount of the dormancy fee for an inactive gift card (\$2) to the maximum fee an amusement park operator can charge at a boardwalk game (\$10; it used to be \$5).

Questions also touched on automobile lemon laws, consumers' rights in relation to broken furniture and types of scams criminal use to concoct bogus charities.

The students answered either open-ended or multiple-choice questions, and as Randolph's team captain Ben Wohl, 17, said after, it boils down not to just what students know, but also how the questions are framed — such as immediately identifying "all of the above" or "none of the above" answers to questions.

"We also knew the general kind themes," Wohl said. His teammates — Jae Hwang, Sohumi Doshi, Jason Berger and Gus Roman — all studied individual topics they knew might come up, like consumer rights regarding automobile purchases.

Each team thoroughly en-

joyed the game show format.

"It's the thrill of pushing the button as fast as you can and getting something right," Doshi said.

Margaret "Peggy" Anastos, chief of staff for the Division of Consumer Affairs, said the goal of the Consumer Bowl, now in its 14th year, is teaching.

"The key to this is to make them educated consumers," Anastos said. "They should basically know what their rights are."

Anastos said four more county competitions remain, and then there will be three regional finals for counties in the northern, central and southern parts of New Jer-

sey.

The final will be May 10 in Trenton.

While Randolph's students each got trophies and certificates, all the competitors got T-shirts for their participation.

Megan Sherwood, Megan Cherry, Cassie Kepler, Kerry Rogers and Carly Sherwood represented Morris Hills, while Emily Rochotte, Alexander Tschopp, Eric Wood, Rachel Stewart and Chetna Johri represented Mount Olive. Kinnelon's team was made up of Trevor Horton, Christopher Hannigan, Maria Minor, Anya McMurrer and Alex Delannoy.